

For Immediate Release

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**AFRICAN UNION CHAIRMAN OBIANG SUPPORTS CONCLUSIONS OF
HIGH-LEVEL AU COMMITTEE ON LIBYA**

MALABO (March 23, 2011) -- African Union (AU) Chairman Obiang Nguema Mbasogo, President of the Republic of Equatorial Guinea, has given his support to the recommendations of the High-Level Ad-Hoc Committee of the AU regarding Libya, which met in Nouakchott, Mauritania. On March 19.

An African Union communiqué called the committee's conclusions "a feasible basis for finding a quick and peaceful solution to the current crisis in Libya, taking into account the legitimate aspirations of the Libyan people to achieve democracy and political reforms."

The AU president noted with satisfaction the announcement made by the Libyan authorities of a cease-fire, in response to the appeal of the High-Level Ad Hoc Committee. He urged the interested parties to work together to bring about an end to hostilities "in order to guarantee the efficient protection of the civil population and to create favorable conditions for a dialogue between the Libyan parties and begin the reforms that are necessary to confront the causes of the current crisis."

President Obiang also appealed to the AU's partners and the entire international community to support this African approach without reservations. He encouraged the committee to persevere in their efforts to promote a quick solution to the crisis.

About Equatorial Guinea

The Republic of Equatorial Guinea (República de Guinea Ecuatorial) is the only Spanish-speaking country in Africa, and one of the smallest nations on the continent. In the late-1990s, American companies helped discover the country's oil and natural gas resources, which only within the last five years began contributing to the global energy supply. Equatorial Guinea is now working to serve as a pillar of stability and security in its region of West Central Africa. The country will host the 2011 Summit of the African Union. For more information, visit <http://www.guineaecuatorialpress.com>.

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2011 MAR 24 PM 2:39

REC'D/CEC/LEAD 11 MAR 2011
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